



The EU as a model for ASEAN

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Abstract

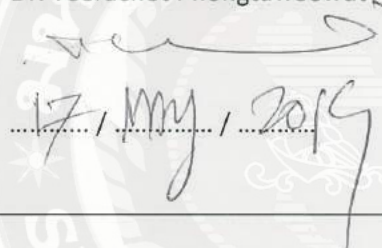
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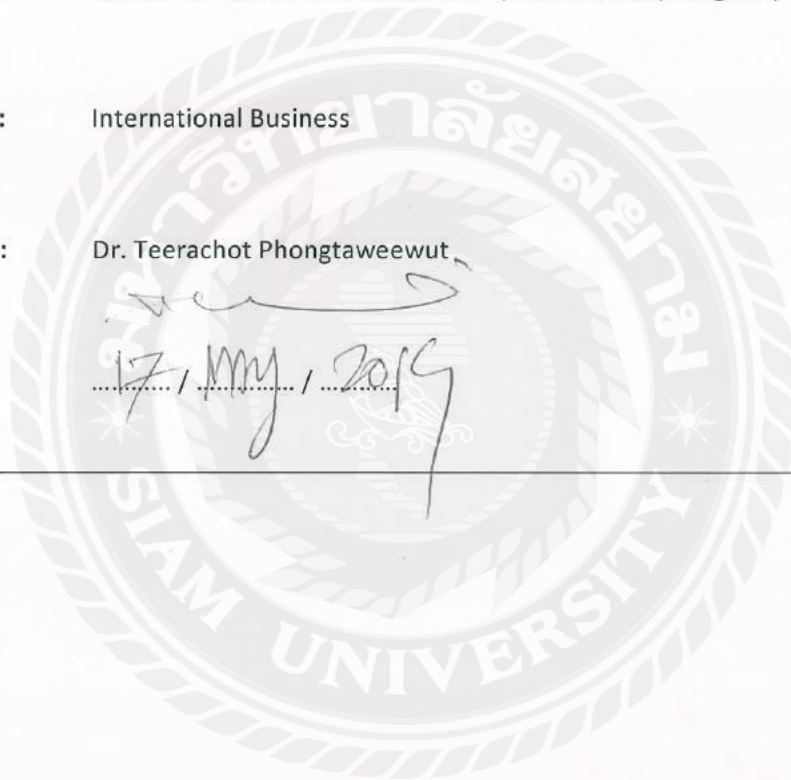
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Abstract

Regional integration has posed many challenges in different countries that may want to implement both economic and ecological models. Countries have joined to form regional blocks such as ASEAN and the EU. The EU boasts as the best regional integration in the world and is followed by ASEAN. The disparity between the two mainly revolves around sovereignty and an image of oneness. The EU model has been one of the best integration and it has also seen the EU getting awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012. Both ASEAN and the EU have experienced economic crisis such as the financial crisis of Southeast Asia in from 1997 to 1998, and the 2008 to 2009 European Union's financial crisis. The EU has remarkably bulldozed its way to become a good example for the benefits of global economic integration. ASEAN experiences unequal growth but not easily solvable like the EU has tried to help its poor members. It is therefore imperative that ASEAN promotes human rights and democracy as seen by the EU so as to create a foundation for an efficient economic growth. ASEAN ways i.e. the rules and regulations set by ASEAN has proven to lack binding effects but through the bureaucracy seen in the EU from Brussels, ASEAN can be able to formulate a formidable economic growth and also promote peace from its members. The Brexit may pose as a negative issue for ASEAN to use the EU as a template but ASEAN should focus on the whole EU as a block and emulate its advantages and achievements over the years.

Approved by

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The EU as a Model for ASEAN

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1. Background

Major regions have been coming up with multinational groups in order to promote integration while overcoming past conflicts. The depth of integration has differed across all these multinational groups such as the European Union (EU) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The EU has been praised for its customs union as opposed to the ASEAN's free-trade zone (He, 2016). Further, the ASEAN has proven to lack a supranational government unlike the EU which has an elected parliament.

Despite the historical interactions between EU and ASEAN in regards to political and economic levels, their political orientation has proven to distinguish both of them (Meissner, 2016). The EU has shown its quest to strengthen the bond among its members as it shares the same currency, budget constraints, regulations and legal frameworks. This idea of sharing has enabled the EU to grow strong as opposed to the ASEAN which is mainly made of Asian countries that mostly lack the sharing options that the EU enjoys.

Despite having countries like China, S Korea, France, EU, and Japan financing its operations, the ASEAN funding is much limited unlike other countries (Almekinders, Mourmouras, Zhou, & Fukuda, 2015). It is thus quite remarkable that a country like Japan can compete with the United States (US) and the EU and exceed them in scientific research. However, when it comes to the ASEAN as a block, the level of financial resources and researchers restricts its research capability which can enable it to emulate the EU model.

However, the ASEAN lacks trade barriers and a rigid governmental structure on trade hence poses as an advantage as opposed to the EU. The dialogue and diplomacy between ASEAN and EU will however foster their relationships and create strategic partnerships. The EU can therefore be used as a model for the ASEAN if both economic and ecological models are implemented.

1.1 Significance of the Study

On 21st January 2019, according to the Council of European Union (2019), the EU and the ASEAN created a strategic partnership in a bid to strengthen their relationship. It is therefore important to note how the EU model may be used for the ASEAN structure. The implication of this study will thus conclude on the implementations capabilities of both the economic and ecological models. This study will thus help in policy making especially for both economic and political standing. This study is thus important to the understanding of our global economy as it will help to expand knowledge as to how the ASEAN can overcome its challenges and go at par level with the EU despite both being most successful regional organizations.

For the researcher, the new perspective to the trading nations that this topic will bring is the way the ASEAN economic outlook can be improved as it broadens the different opportunities that many researchers have not explored. This paper will arrive at the new theory on the ASEAN implementing the EU model in which the recommended approach may help both trading blocks and multinational groups to factor in their research. The topic

study is thus significant as it will bring into light the potential economic of the ASEAN which has not yet been unearthed especially through the economic and ecological models.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The main objective that this research paper will examine is the necessary implementations that the ASEAN needs to achieve on an optimum EU model through learning and examining the EU. The objectives will thus focus on how the EU model may affect the ASEAN's sustainable development, internal market, and areas without borders. The objective of this study will also examine what the ASEAN can learn from the EU's scientific and technological development. The EU prevention of social exclusion, solidarity, respect for languages and cultures, and common foreign and security policy will thus be examined in regards to its possibility of the ASEAN implementing them.

1.3 Scope of the Study

The study will focus on the EU and the ASEAN relationship in regards to their partnership since their time in conception and specifically the impact of the EU model if implemented by the ASEAN. The precursor will thus be based on the advantages that the EU has over ASEAN as well as the theories related to this research. This research will thus make use of economic and ecological models. This study will thus be broken down as to what the ASEAN should emulate from the EU in order to overcome its challenges. The biggest risk for a successful completion of this project will thus be maintaining the distinguishable culture of the ASEAN and avoid over-shadowing it with the EU culture.

1.4 Expected Outputs

This study will help in the contribution to the social, economic and political structures in regional integrations. The theoretical understanding of the EU model is expected to create a clear outline of both economic and ecological models as they may impact the ASEAN. It is the aim of this study to enable the deduction as to how the EU model may benefit other multinational groups if it may work well for the ASEAN. The advantages of the EU model will thus be the main focus as it will help to adduce to the impacts and challenges if implemented by the ASEAN. It is thus the aim of this study to showcase how sovereignty sharing can help a lot as opposed to strict inter-governmental body which lack political will. The ASEAN's rhetoric is to create a closer cooperation and integration and is expected to be matched with the action through following the EU model as recommended by this study.

1.5 Objectives and Results to be achieved

The objectives and results that are expected to be achieved by proposing this study is to know the opportunities that the EU model has over the ASEAN, the culture that will be preserved, the currency that will be utilized, and the conflicts that will be neutralized. These objectives and results will also venture into the failures of the EU model and provide an in-depth analysis as to how to solve them for the benefit of the ASEAN. The promotion for peace, area of freedom, a free single market, a social market economy and a sustainable development are thus the results that are to be achieved by the objective of combating social exclusion and discrimination.

1.6 Operational Definition

The variables of this study will be measured through taking a sample of the EU countries and comparing them with the ASEAN. Through a descriptive study, sampling bias will also be used such as examining the US. The operational definition will thus be achieved through the case study of the EU which will include the advantages and disadvantages of its model to allow predictions and ethical considerations. Through measuring the pros and cons, the ultimate result will be based on whether these merits outweigh the demerits.



CHAPTER 2

2. Overview of the Theory of Economic and Political Integration

Many theories have been formulated in explaining the process and result of integration in Europe. Since the World War II, market economics were destroyed especially in the Western Europe hence the quest for a practical approach in economic integration which was backed up by the signing of the League Treaty in 1919 (Crouzet, 2017). Liberal economic thinkers employed the theory of economic integration which preceded the political integration that was branched as a process and goal. The theory of economic integration was thus the genesis of analyzing the effects of integration. This study will thus gain a lot by examining and understanding the survival of the EU and hypothesize how the ASEAN can implement the EU models.

2.1 Functionalism Theory

Functionalists are attributed to the theoretical framework that regional integration boasts to have since they are modified into functionalism and the process itself which touched on people's loyalties and the ability to educate governments (Cini, 2016). The welfare of the people would be put at test if their loyalty is shaken by the international agencies' works. Governments would not as well want to lose control over their interests simply because they are educated and are yearning to be termed as civilized. The ASEAN has implemented this theory since it mainly focuses on the intergovernmental structure and aims at protecting the sovereignty of each state as opposed to sharing it like the EU.

Functionalism is thus anti-politics since it avoids touching on political mileages and the turbulence brought by international politics.

2.1.1 Neo- Functionalism Theory

Between 1950s and 1960s, neo-functionalism theory was very popular as it gained fame from Ernst Haas's Book '*The Uniting of Europe*', 1958 (Laursen, 2018). This theory is important to the ASEAN because neo-functionalists attempt to ask how European integration can be increased through cooperation and having suitable economic policy sector while enhancing political integration. The answer is given in a two spillover sequence in which the first spillover explains the integration in a single policy area like steel and coal that may exert pressure for integration in other geographical areas as affected by the forex (Laurse, 2018). The second spillover appreciates the importance of sub national and supranational actors whose interests may make them to exert more pressure for integration as the ASEAN may also want to safeguard its interest by applying the EU model. The European integration under this theory is thus self-sustaining and it will thus create a new polity which ASEAN needs to understand and implement for future economic prospects.

2.2 Intergovernmentalism Theory

In this theory, there is the emphasizes of the role of nation states to integrate as they also protect sovereignty such as the EU as opposed the common fear of being obsolete that the ASEAN experiences (Bickerton, Hodson, & Puetter, 2015). National governments are

the primary actors and by delegating some sovereignty, the EU has proven to strengthen than weaken thus the ASEAN should apply this theory too. The EU member states governments' interests are converged while they also share goals in a radical change as opposed to slower integration like the ASEAN. The role of the national government is thus not lost as they will still have a bargaining chip during the process of integration.

2.3 Liberal Intergovernmentalism

In the 1990s, the Liberal Intergovernmentalism theory was common and more dominant as it was also mainly attributed to Andrew Moravcsik who wrote a book by the name "The Choice of Europe", 1998 in which the Intergovernmentalism Theory developed to Liberal Intergovernmentalism (Forlenza, 2017). The Liberal Intergovernmentalism incorporates the liberal model of preference formation in which governments strongly bargain with others in references to their tastes and preferences as the ASEAN has shown. Emphasis is placed on the main actors being the national governments. Package deals and side payments are thus part and parcel of the bargains and deals. Institutions are thus formed to ensure that other members keep their ends of their bargains through credible commitments (Meunier & Vachudova, 2018). As opposed to neo-functionalism theory, it is the belief by Liberal Intergovernmentalism theory that supranational institutions are of limited importance but the EU has proven otherwise hence the ASEAN has to revise its application of this theory.

2.4 New Institutionalism Theory

The New Institutionalism Theory emphasizes on the importance that institutions have in the process of integration as the EU has shown. It was developed during the 1980s

and 1990s as way of explaining the behaviors of the United States Congress but with developments, the European Integration used it (Bache, Bulmer, George, & Parker, 2015). The ASEAN could learn more from the three strands of New Institutionalism Theory which are the rational choice, historical, and sociological.

2.4.1 Rational Choice Institutionalism

The actors are known to pursue individual preferences in regards to the confines of institutional rules. The preferences change as the institutional rules change hence interesting noted that the actors' behaviors are constrained such as the conflict in the preferred policy outcomes and the ordinary legislative procedure (Wiarda, 2018). If clearly examined, the Rational Choice Institutionalism is almost similar to the Liberal Intergovernmentalism theory.

2.4.2 Sociological Institutionalism

Sociological Institutionalism emphasizes the broader norms and general rules and affirms the identities and preferences of the actors during integration (Farrell, 2018). Regard is taken on the culture of the institution and emphasis is put on the socialization of the actors as utilized by the EU. during policy making, in pursuit of integration, the patterns of communication and persuasion are thus considered which can make the EU model as a simulator for the ASEAN.

2.4.3 Historical Institutionalism

As time passes, the effects of institutions are examined through the Historical Institutionalism which focuses on constraining the actors' actions (Farrell, 2018). The path

to dependency is thus a distinguishable element in which past decisions on institutions is irreversible as they also impact on future outcomes. Paul Pierson, in the year 1996 wrote on the EU's path to dependency in which he pointed out that the actors may not understand the consequences of their decisions for future but may learn later in future and constrain their behaviors (Powell, 2018). The ASEAN can implement the EU's direction through historical intuitionism.

2.5 Multi-Level Governance Theory

Multi-Level Governance Theory is a modern theory that the EU integration uses as it points to the relations of policy making and integration as a complex feature that static integration theories cannot comprehend (King, 2016). Multi-Level Governance Theory is a dispersed authority across all platforms of political governance. Therefore, a feature that is well noted by the Multi-Level Governance Theory is that authority and sovereignty has slowly moved from both supranational and sub national levels in national governments. Policy making in the EU is ever changing, uneven and unpredictable hence highlights the limitations of the aforementioned theories. The ASEAN actors seem to see this as farfetched since the member states do not want to part away with any sovereignty and since this is a modern element in integration, the ASEAN can learn from the EU sharing of authority and sovereignty.

CHAPTER 3

Methodology

3. Introduction

This study will outlay how the ASEAN could improve its economic integration if it implements the EU models and more specifically the economic and ecological models. It is an expected outcome that the aforementioned problem will be solved through gathering and analyzing data in various ways that will approach the research question. The methodology chosen will help to acquire information while deducing the conclusion about the EU as a model for ASEAN.

3.1 Research Strategy

This study is an applied one but is not new per se since there are previous academic researches that exist in regards to the the ASEAN can depict from the success of the EU. Therefore, this proposed study has taken a form of a new research but takes regards on the existing research subjects.

3.2 Research Approach

The approach that this research will be based on would be an inductive one since it began with a specific observation which laid the foundation of the generalized theories and hypotheses that the study draws. The inductive approach takes the contact where the research effort is active that is regional and economic integration therefore appropriate for samples. However, the downside of this approach is that it will only produce generalized

theories and a conclusion which is based on a observation hence creates a questionable research results.

3.3 Data Collection method and tools

The primary research method will thus involve literature review and conceptual modeling. Only the secondary data will be used to achieve the objectives and purpose of this research. The secondary data is meant to contribute in creating background information needed in the study with the intention of building constructively the project and help the reader to clearly understand the outcome. Theoretical perspectives will thus help to analyze the text and explain the observed behaviors.

The research purpose will be achieved through the use of observations in which a descriptive data would be attained in regards to how people react to the EU as a model or ASEAN. Documentary analysis will also help in collecting data in which existing documents will be used from both the library and internet sources. Documents are a good source as they provide a wide array of information in regards to people and organizations that created them hence the social context will also play a great role. The ASEAN and EU's economic practices and academic research will be comprehensively reviewed.

3.4 Ethical Consideration

This study will encounter certain ethical issues such as acquiring permissions from the legal persons of the internet sources, books and public forum. The data may be outdated and may also give inaccurate information. It is imperative to acknowledge the owners of the original data but acquiring ethical clearance form research that are part of other research

may pose as a challenge. Balancing between having a relevant and adequate data is also a point to note, while avoiding an excess. Loss, accidental destruction and unauthorized access may affect data collected for the purpose of this research if not stored well. Consequentially, having focused on secondary data will create a vacuum for data archiving which is sometimes attributed to personal views.

3.5 Limitation of This Research

Since reliance will be placed on information previously collected, the official statistics may be biased as the authors may limit the information garnered. The way things are measured changes with time hence making historical comparison such as the EU and ASEAN would pose as a challenge. Some documents may also lack authentic imprint such as the verification of the actual author mainly because of some missing segments due to age. There is the problem of representativeness in which some documents may not be available to the general public as they may be withheld while some may have been destroyed by age and unusable due to improper storage.

CHAPTER 4

FACTS AND FINDINGS

3. The EU Model Brief

It is imperative to note that the European Union as a successor of European Coal and Steel Community has been used as models of other regional organizations since its establishment in the year 1952 as compared to the ASEAN which was established in the year 1967 (Lenz, 2018). However, there have been discussions of the viability of this model status due to the recent crisis that include Brexit, migration and common currency. Furthermore, there is a recognizable global effect in regards to the assimilation of the European Union-type such as parliamentary assemblies and dispute settlement mechanisms.

Through the negotiations, financial and technical assistance, the EU has shown an active promotion in regional integration. The problem that the infusion of the EU model by other regional integration blocks, like the ASEAN, will include the fear of losing sovereignty and other social-economic and socio-political contexts. In brief, despite these challenges, the EU model has predominantly attracted many regional organizations because it helps in peace and economic prosperity in a world of conflict and poverty.

4.1 The EU and the ASEAN Member States

The EU is made up of the following 27 member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,

Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden. The Brexit led to the United Kingdom leaving the membership (Latõšov, VolkovaSiirde, Kurnitski, J., & Thalfeldt, 2017).

On the Other hand the ASEAN's 10 members' states include: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam (Yorozu, 2017). The comparison showcases that the EU has stronger members in terms of economic powers as well as the size of its population which can thus be a good example as to the cohesion it has been able to adapt and act as a model.

4.2 The EU Model Principles

According to the Council on Foreign Relations (2010), the success of the EU model has been dependent on four principles which are visionary politicians, leadership, leadership, political will to share sovereignty, and consensus approach.

Visionary politicians. Robert Schuman of France and Konrad Adenauer of Germany are visionary leaders who veered from the traditional balance-of-power model as they created a new political front that's was supported by the US and based on supranational "community method". The EU model exemplifies to approach and the ASEAN members should try to share its authority and sovereignty to the ASEAN itself.

Leadership. The Franco-German axis created a leadership principle in which Paris and Berlin are instrumental for its survival of the EU integration. Economic and political disparities played a great role but with the exemplary leadership of both

countries, the eastern borders were established, the Union was enlarged and a common foreign security policy was implemented. President Jacques Chirac took and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl came to an amicable relationship that strengthened the Franco-German axis which was on a brink of falling (Jürgens, 2018). As a symbol of administrative impotence, the Franco-German axis has been the motor to the EU through the able leadership which enabled fruitful European treaties. The ASEAN should also try such an approach and its leaders to trust each other in giving proper power to the ASEAN itself.

Political will to share sovereignty. The EU integration project is successful because the member states and institutions showed commitment to construct common institutions with strength and legal recognition that could oversee the integration as opposed to the ASEAN whose member states have not yet given such a power to its integration vehicle.

Consensus Approach. Member states are not isolated when they experience problems but the EU approach combines solidarity and tolerance until each member is comfortable. There may be financial assistance to poor members which is to ensure that they can easily catch up as sometimes the super power states may hesitate on progress to give a leeway for a majority of members to catch up.

4.2 EU Ideas for ASEAN Challenges

The progress of EU has mesmerized regional organizations like ASEAN, African Union (AU), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and Mercosur in South America. However, with the glooming quest of sustainability, the ASEAN has been

aggressive as it sends delegations to Brussels to get more insight (Council on Foreign Relations, 2010). More so, the ASEAN has strictly remained as an inter-governmental body while turning a blind eye at sharing of sovereignty. Nevertheless, according to the then Secretary General of the ASEAN, Yong (2007), the ASEAN has tried to utilize the ideas of EU rather than the model itself in neutralizing its three main challenges in laying the community itself i.e.;

The ASEAN Needs to Move into A More Rule Based Organization. The ASEAN charter created a legal entity in itself in which member states are also separate entities. The creation involved a rule based environment and making the decisions to be legally binding with efficacy. The ASEAN has signified that it is not ready to utilize the EU's legal approach which is court based but with much zeal, the drafters of the ASEAN Charter have conducted a couple of meetings with experts from the EU to enlighten them on how to ensure compliance and member responsibilities.

Narrowing the ASEAN's Identity. The ASEAN has been experiencing problem with new members who are playing catch-up thus not good for cohesiveness. Capacity building is thus an initiative that the ASEAN is focusing on especially to achieve infrastructural development as it tries to incorporate the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development and the Structural Fund concepts. The EU played a role as a mentor since it usually tries to build its poor members' capacities.

Cultivation of a Strong ASEAN Identity and Culture. Europe through the EU has successfully instilled European identity which has turned out to be an impossible mission for the ASEAN. The reason behind this is that individual people

in regions like Southeast Asia are not invested in the idea of one identity and may find it problematic to identify themselves as ASEAN members. Positive discrimination is thus an EU concept which could work for the ASEAN. The EU compromises of multi-lingual Europeans and the ASEAN can create a learning platform for its members to learn other languages.

4.3 Possibility of Implementing the Economic and Ecological model

The EU has contributed for a strong ASEAN with more than 30 years dialogue and relationship (Yong, 2007). The EU has been very supportive for ASEAN as it is generous with sharing its expertise and knowledge with the ASEAN. The EU support can be seen from programs like:

- (i) EU-sponsored ASEAN Programme for Regional Integration Support (APRIS).
- (ii) Trans Regional EU-ASEAN Trade Initiative (TREATI)
- (iii) Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI)

Economic Model. The economic model enables predictions on the economic behavior through observations and understandings. This model enables the ASEAN to predict economic activities that the EU conducts and ultimately conclude on the assumptions. There are prescribed new economic guidelines that the ASEAN can learn from EU to change its future economic behavior. In comparison with the EU, the ASEAN can develop a logical defense to justify its economic policies or learn from the EU in terms of national/political, organizational, and household.

The economic model enables the ASEAN to use the EU model to assist in expanding its speculation on potential trade and investment opportunities as a regional organization. Planning, good leadership and allocating resources require logistics thus it is important that the ASEAN emulates how the EU model applies to ensure its sustainability. The classical economic model thus dictates that ASEAN monitors the demand and supply chain especially focusing on what works in the EU market as it may borrow a leaf from the operations of the EU to reach equilibrium. The global equilibrium between the EU and the ASEAN may be met if the ASEAN follow suit on the EU model.

The ASEAN is a big and complex economic market as it follows the EU which is the most complex modern economy. Allocating limited resources and distributing output among institutions so that each one could create chemistry with one another is an important factor that the ASEAN can borrow from the EU model which works well because of sharing sovereignty. The EU economy model thus creates a reality for ASEAN to create a hypothesis that can test the EU economic behavior thus efficient to create a reasonable prototype workable model.

A successful EU model in regards to economic development that the ASEAN can implement would be the social economy. Cooperative values among EU members have proven to increase economic performance and the ASEAN can easily follow suit if it shows signs of sharing sovereignty and avoid its strict inter-governmental body (Mayo, 2008). Having a common culture shapes the economic competitiveness as norms surrounding individual behavior, co-operative behavior and innovation that ensured success of the EU in which the ASEAN could easily implement if it shows commitment.

Evidently, a strong ASEAN matters since Europe needs to create a relationship with it in order to resonate with East Asian region (Yong, 2007). The EU has entrusted the ASEAN in many times as a credible broker such as in East Asia Summit because the EU has knowledge of the impact that the ASEAN has on the shaping of East Asian architecture. The EU economic interests are dependent on the ASEAN's economic stability in terms of businesses opportunities, growth of trade, and negotiated ASEAN-EU FTA suitable for small economies. The EU economic model can thus be part of the ASEAN if the ASEAN implements and aligns it with the interest of both blocks.

Ecological Model. Environmental factors tend to create different aspects in line with individual behaviors. The aspects that interact and affect these behaviors may affect the likes of ASEAN and the EU. The people involved in their member states may affect some trends in the intergovernmental structure such as the characteristics of each member's citizens, social climate of each country, characteristics of surrounding states and the organizational climate. Dynamic interrelationships exist in regional integration and the ASEAN can learn that it is possible to create a neutral ground for the integration to succeed like the EU. Health and well-being of the regional integrations are key factors because these regional interrogations are entrusted to promote health and prevent disease

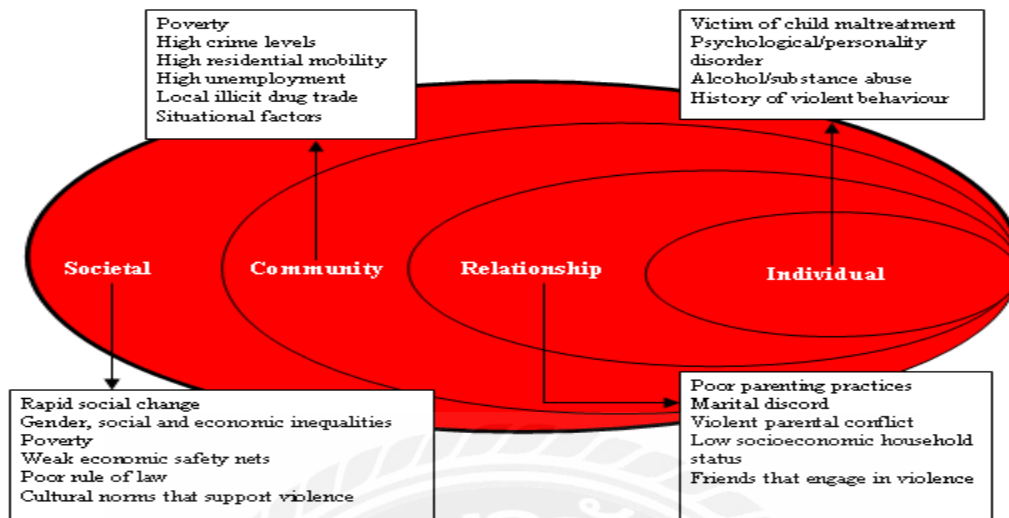


Fig 1. WHO. (n.d.). *The ecological framework*. Retrieved February 10, 2019, from Violence Prevention Alliance: <https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/ecology/en/>

(i) **Intrapersonal/individual factors**

The ASEAN comprises of different cultures from citizens who have different individual characters attributes. The citizens' personalities, beliefs and attitudes could impact on the country's culture and with a block like the ASEAN; different cultures will be in place due to the intergovernmental structures. It is thus imperative that the EU model of shared sovereignty is implemented by the ASEAN as it is possible to do in order to build a unified culture among the ASEAN member states. Parenting and family focused prevention programs will thus help a lot when combined with mentoring and peer programs in promoting healthy relations in a unified institution.

(ii) **Interpersonal factors**

The interactions of the citizens with other people are important and for regional integration like the ASEAN, it is an up to task importance that collaboration is sustained with social support from each member state. The EU model promotes such collaboration and the ASEAN can easily implement this because information exchange is important. Social inclusion is important for the ASEAN and institutions should not be left to handle all affairs while secluding individuals. The EU safeguards its citizens' rights by providing social protection, equal opportunities and more importantly inclusion through efficient funding which the ASEAN can easily provide for the same if it implements such ideologies. Education and life skill training are ways the ASEAN can use to help in preventing attitudes, behaviors and violence brought by factors in education, substance use and income disparity as done by the EU.

(iii) **Institutional and organizational factors**

Policies, rule and regulations are part and parcel of regional integration which are entwined in the institutional and organizational factors. They are supposed to promote social behaviors and with a block like the ASEAN, it is supposed to learn that the informal structures and the legal structures may constrain healthy behaviors. By emulating the EU, it is possible that the ASEAN can promote healthy behaviors if members delegate authority to the ASEAN.

(iv) **Community factors**

Schools, workplaces and neighborhoods are a hub for social relationships occurs. The physical environment is thus impacted through prevention strategies and the ASEAN can do so by reducing social isolation, improving housing and economic opportunities and coming up with social policies. Both informal and formal norms need the correlations of individuals, organizations and groups which are supposed to address environmental risks and emulate an efficient ecological model. The ASEAN can do this by following up on the European directives and regulations meant to address chemicals.

(v) **Public policy factors**

The Local, state, and federal policies and laws are indeed supposed to ensure that they regulate and support health actions and practices for disease prevention. The EU has enabled its shared sovereignty to ensure there are no bureaucracies as seen in the ASEAN where the intergovernmental structure derails some ecological model implementations. By reducing bureaucracy, the ASEAN can implement public policies that support the ecological model.

Potential implementable Ecological Models from the EU. The ASEAN can try to implement the environmental risk assessment of chemicals applied by different EU directives and explore potential of ecological effect models through 5 areas for the application of ecological models in chemical risk assessment (Hommen, Baveco, Paul & Brink, 2010):

- (i) Extrapolation of organism-level effects to the population level
- (ii) Extrapolation of effects between different exposure profiles
- (iii) Extrapolation of recovery processes

- (iv) Analysis and prediction of indirect effects
- (v) Prediction of bioaccumulation within food chains

According to Hommen et al (2010), the protection goals that the EU applies include; “Plant protection products are regulated under Directive 91/414/EEC, Biocidal products are regulated under Directive 98/8/EC, Medicinal products are regulated under Regulation 726/2004 (EC 2004e) and the 2 Directives, 2004/27/EC (EC 2004b) for medical products for human use and 2004/28/EC (EC 2004c) for veterinary products, industrial chemicals in the EU are regulated under the regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH, EC 2007)”. The ASEAN can learn from the EU directives, which have worked well over the years, in order to ensure that it survives and creates an environmental friendly business community for its a healthy economic growth and success.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION and RECOMMENDATION

This study has created an array of possible scenarios where the ASEAN can easily implement the EU model. The EU model has proven to have significant advantages that the ASEAN can learn from to break into the global market. In comparison, the EU has big countries in terms of their GDP and economical breakthrough as opposed to the ASEAN.

The EU has been advantageous since its establishment such as providing its members with a greater influence on international matters. This is advantageous because the with Germany and France having the most population in the EU and combining them with the rest of the members, the EU can have more influence by countering the US and Russian's population which is greater than the EU members states individual population. Individual sovereignty has been maintained by each member state despite parting with a little political consideration. The Brexit process proved that national sovereignty is core in spite of having a cooperative structure. The ASEAN may take a few tips from such a structure if it wants to reach the EU model.

Security has been improved due to the increased communication in the EU structures since governments are able to easily and quickly communicate to each other in terms of intelligence on terrorism and refugee migration. Growth in the EU has also grown since there is a mutual investment throughout the EU as trading advantages are created and thus easy to also negotiate with a country like the US. There is also the advantage of leveraging better trade agreements at a global scale as negotiations are in the favor of the

EU where the large population allows discounts too. Consumers are also allowed to save on money for the goods that are needed because the EU received the goods at cheaper rates hence incomes increase.

The EU has allowed easy travel in Europe and also enabled the healing of past divisions. The level of discrimination decreases as its culture promotes human rights as well and the individual discrimination are eliminated as opposed to the ASEAN type of integration. Through the EU, countries have modernized as countries join together to promote socioeconomic perspectives and human rights.

The ASEAN has a fledging cooperation as compared to the EU's integration that is quite impressive as seen by the above advantages that it has over the ASEAN. Despite the Brexit occurrence where UK decided to go it alone after a 43 year membership, the ASEAN can still implement the EU model. The ASEAN can learn from Europe's methodical climb which led to its many achievements as a single market through some of recommendations that this study shall provide.

The ASEAN has not gone far enough with economic integration and political union as done by the EU. It is thus advisable that the ASEAN should put more effort in institutionalizing its cooperative ventures. The ASEAN has many vehicles like the ASEAN Regional Forum in 1994, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation in 1989 among others but it is not enough to reach where the EU has reached.

The ASEAN may boast of launching the ASEAN Community but the EU has an organizational wherewithal. The ASEAN can thus implement such by drafting and enforcing rules. The reason for implementing the EU legal structure would be because the

ASEAN is disunited and lacks a [roper legal framework they could govern the interstate relations in South South China Sea. The ASEAN can learn from the EU by going further in ensuring collective action to address regional tensions such as the South China Sea issue. China and maritime ASEAN claimant states have a geopolitical contest and since there are no rules, the conflict has increased. The EU model has a number of rules and guidelines divided into primary and secondary legislations which get powers form treaties. The ASEAN should thus emulate the EU law structure.

Furthermore, the ASEAN as a loosely structured integration and in an in-depth look, one could find that it is non-binding. The ASEAN's integration is premised on norms, functions and connections. However, the EU integration is based on supra-nationality and legalistic and binding treaties. The EU has an immense bureaucracy in Brussels as compared to the dwarfed ASEAN's secretariat in Jakarta. This means that decisions form the ASEAN is consensus-driven. However, the EU uses majority voting and has an effective dispute settlement mechanism which the ASEAN can learn from. Through copying this EU model, organizations are given power and easily promote common causes in both economic and ecological model structures. Nontraditional security issues are solved by the EU model such as expanding economic integration, elimination of human trafficking and mitigation of environmental damage.

The Brexit may make much regional integration to allude that the ASEAN cooperation method really works. however, integration like the ASEAN should take it as a positive occurrence that can help it gain more knowledge from the EU. The EU has paid the price of sovereignty through supra-nationality and outright integration and has proven to the ASEAN and the world that the EU is many steps far. The EU still has a chance to

regroup from the Brexit and through internal reforms and retrenchment; there would be ease in integration which will automatically satisfy various demands and anxieties. The ASEAN has gained more attention from the Brexit and should take advantage of both the EU's political and economic integration model despite it posing as an unsuitable template for the ASEAN.

It is outright that the ASEAN does not want to fully apply the EU integration model but just to learn from it. Therefore, the ASEAN should create more cooperation and collaboration that the EU showcases as its leaders should focus on the ultimate aim of achieving measured and selective integration.

With a population of about 640 million people, the ASEAN has a glimmer of hope to outshine its potential economic growth since it is the second most successful regional organization. The meetings that the ASEAN does yearly always focus on deepening cooperation and its geopolitical engagement has seen fruitful coexistence. However, the territorial disputes have threatened cohesion as well as domestic politics like Malaysia and Thailand. Indonesia introduced the culture of *musyawarah* and *mufakat* (consultation and consensus) and by implementing the ecological and economic models that the EU has to offer as a Nobel Peace Prize winner in 2012, the ASEAN can strengthen its identity and unity.

Ultimately, the ASEAN should use the EU's replicable pillars of borders, education and airfares. Through the Schengen agreement in 1985, most Europeans to move freely around most of the continent without ever having their passports checked and without

having to register. The EU citizens have also been given rights to vote such as French local elections and elections for the European parliament.

There is also the student exchange program known as Erasmus, after the Dutch philosopher Desiderius Erasmus, where EU students are allowed to transfer credits among participating European universities. ASEAN leaders should thus create shared values at the organization's core while promoting democracy and human rights. The ASEAN leaders should look closely at the EU's three pillars that have enabled the EU to become united and have a sense of one culture i.e. identifying oneself as "European".

ASEAN remains an elite-driven organization where the public do not participate. A people centered ASEAN could help the ASEAN to learn from the Asia's 1997 economic crisis. Young leaders should be given enough power and the EU model of oneness can be emulated if the ASEAN removes barriers in travel, work and study across the region.

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